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Viet jungle school their task

Two of Australia's best-known jungle-fighter soldiers, who left for Vietnam yesterday, will help establish a Canungra-style jungle training school near Saigon.

The men, Colonel George Warfe, 54, of East Bentleigh, and Major Fred Lomas, 52, of Beaumaris, are both on the Australian army officer reserve list, but have accepted the jobs as civilians.

They were hired on a business basis by the United States Operations Mission after another well-known jungle fighter, Colonel Ted Serong, spoke of their value.

Colonel Warfe and Major Lomas will train American and South Vietnam jungle fighters.

At her home last night, Mrs. Warfe said her husband had been offered "an adequate, but not a huge, salary," to do the job.

"The Americans made the approach some weeks ago, and he was happy to go. He said that in the long run it might reduce the number of other Australians who would have to fight there," she said.

"He has been restless since he's been out of the army, which had been his life," she said.

Colonel Warfe was working as a personnel and industrial officer in a plastics factory.

Before leaving, Colonel

Warfe said the first thing he would do on arriving in Vietnam would be to shoulder a pack and rifle, and go into the jungle to see what conditions were like.

Both men will be in Vietnam for two years, and will have a month's leave after a year. Mrs. Warfe said she might visit her husband later this year.

They both had distinguished war and post-war records, and both hold the Military Cross for gallantry.

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